

# Changes to YoungStar for 2014

The items outlined in this document are clarifications or modifications that were made to YoungStar for 2014 implementation. These will be effective for any program that applies to YoungStar on or after January 1, 2014 or whose anniversary date is in 2014.

## General Clarifications That Apply to All YS Programs

Area	Clarification
Children in Regular Attendance	<p>In general, a child is considered to be “in regular attendance” if he or she attends the program for 50% of the hours the program is open or more.</p> <p>For 2014, if a program is open more than 40 hours per week, a child will be considered to be “in regular attendance” if he or she attends the program 20 hours per week or more on average.</p>

## Family Child Care Programs

Category	Indicator	2013 Indicator	2014 YoungStar Indicator
Education and Training	A.1 and A.2	No changes to the requirements were made for 2014. However, more information about maintaining Registry Program Profiles and regulatory requirements was added.	
Learning Environment and Curriculum	B.1.3	Additional work on an item in the program’s Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) with a PDAS-Approved Technical Consultant.	We are adding the option to do the additional work on a QIP with a PDAS-Approved Master Level Trainer in addition to the existing options.
	B.2.2	Curriculum aligned with WMELS or SACF.	This indicator has been clarified and expanded upon to explain more thoroughly what a rater is looking for in regard to curriculum alignment and Developmentally Appropriate Practices.
	B.3.1-4	Child Outcomes	These indicators have been clarified and expanded upon to explain more thoroughly and give examples of what a rater is looking for in each indicator.
	B.3.2	Program uses intentional planning to improve child outcomes.	An explanation of the use of periodic summarization adds timelines to the requirements around assessing children.
Business and Professional Practices	C.2.1	Accurate taxes	Clarified that if a program has been granted a tax extension or files electronically that proof of this can be used in lieu of providing certain tax documents. The following year, if an extension was granted and the rater was unable to see completed tax documents

			because of the extension, the rater would need to see the taxes from the previous two years.
	C.2.2	Provider contracts with parents for paid time off.	Clarified the language that needs to be in the contract with families.
Health and Wellness	D.1.1	Healthy meals/CACFP participation	Added clarification that if a program is removed or suspended from CACFP, they will lose this point for the rest of the YoungStar rating year. They will be eligible to earn the point again after their next YoungStar Contract Renewal and rating.

## Group and School-Age Care Programs

Category	Indicator	2013 YoungStar Indicator	2014 YoungStar Indicator
Provider Education and Training	A.1	No changes to the requirements were made for 2014. However, more information about maintaining Registry Program Profiles and regulatory requirements was added.	
Learning Environment and Curriculum	B.1.3	Additional work on an item in the program's Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) with a PDAS-Approved Technical Consultant.	We are adding the option to do the additional work on a QIP with a PDAS-Approved Master Level Trainer in addition to the existing options.
	B.2.2	Curriculum aligned with WMELS or SACF.	This indicator has been clarified and expanded upon to explain more thoroughly what a rater is looking for in regard to curriculum alignment and Developmentally Appropriate Practices.
	B.3.1-3	Child Outcomes	These indicators have been clarified and expanded upon to explain more thoroughly and give examples of what a rater is looking for in each indicator.
	B.3.2	Program uses intentional planning to improve child outcomes.	An explanation of the use of periodic summarization adds timelines to the requirements around assessing children.
Business and Professional Practices	C.2.1	Accurate taxes	Clarified that if a program has been granted a tax extension or files electronically that proof of this can be used in lieu of providing certain tax documents. The following year, if an extension was granted and the rater was unable to see completed tax documents because of the extension, the rater would need to see the taxes from the previous two years.
	C.2.2	Employment policies and procedures	<p>Clarified that the hiring process should include a list of questions that the interviewer may not ask or topics that cannot be broached because they may be considered to be discriminatory.</p> <p>Added the requirement for the Director to be evaluated by the Board of Directors if there is one, or by herself or himself if there is not a Board.</p> <p>Added the requirement that the program must have a policy that states that disciplinary procedures are done in private.</p>

	C.2.3	Model Work Standards	Added clarification around what a program needs to do in their first and subsequent years of implementing Model Work Standards to meet the requirements of the indicator.
	C.4.1	Staff benefits	Clarified the optional point around providing 25% contribution to a staff member's health insurance
Health and Wellness	D.1.1	Healthy meals/CACFP participation	Added clarification that if a program is removed or suspended from CACFP, they will lose this point for the rest of the YoungStar rating year. They will be eligible to earn the point again after their next YoungStar Contract Renewal and rating.